

Project Motivation

- I am dedicated to leadership and service
- I was devastated by the tragedies of Hurricane Maria
- I am a Spanish minor
- I aspire to join the Peace Corps after OSU graduation



Transformational Impact

- Confirmed my desire to join the Peace Corps
- Improved my Spanish conversational skills
- Helped me to recognize the privilege I have as an American and how I can utilize it to help others
- Allowed me to help aid in Puerto Rico's recovery from Hurricane Maria and build connections to the community

SERVICE LEARNING IN PUERTO RICO

Project Description

- Two week service-learning trip to Puerto Rico with Spanish immersion classes and a stay with a host family
- Cultural immersion component with exploration of Old San Juan, a bioluminescent bay, El Yunque Rainforest, and a bomba class

Biggest Takeaways

- Be flexible and have faith that things will work out
- Speak the language as much as you can and be okay with making mistakes
- We should always look out for our neighbors
- Puerto Rico needs more support from the federal government



Name: Juliana Discher

STEP Project Category: Service Learning and Community Service

STEP Faculty Mentor: Patrick Herak

Major: Political Science



Favorite Memories

- The friendliness of the Puerto Rican people and the gratitude they expressed after our service
- Getting out of my comfort zone with Spanish immersion classes
- Kayaking in the biolumiscent bay and being greeted by the most beautiful sunset I have ever seen
- Bonding with my fellow Buckeyes on the trip



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



STEP

Second-year Transformational Experience Program